

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of this application as amended is requested. By this amendment, Claims 1, 3, 5, 16, and 18-19, have been amended, and new Claims 20-21 have been added. After this amendment, Claims 1-21 remain pending in this application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for acknowledging that Claims 3-17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

First of all, Applicant has amended Claim 3 to rewrite it in independent form including all of the limitations of independent Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant believes that independent Claim 3 is now allowable. Further, all dependent claims 4-17 now depend directly or indirectly from allowable independent Claim 3. Therefore, Applicant believes that all the dependent Claims 4-17 are also now allowable.

Secondly, Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to recite the limitations of Claim 1 and dependent Claim 5. The Examiner has recognized that this combination is allowable. Further, dependent Claim 2 depends from allowable Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant believes that Claims 1 and 2 are allowable.

Thirdly, Applicant has amended Claims 18 and 19 to recite the limitations of dependent Claim 5 including independent Claim 1. Since the Examiner has acknowledged that dependent Claim 5 is allowable if re-written to include the limitations of independent Claim 1, Applicant believes that the amended Claims 18 and 19, which both now include such limitations of Claim 5 and Claim 1, are in allowable form.

Fourth, Applicant has added Claims 20 and 21 to recite the limitations of dependent Claim 16 including independent Claim 1. Since the Examiner has acknowledged that dependent Claim 16 is allowable if re-written to include the limitations of independent Claim 1, Applicant believes that the new Claims 20 and 21, which both now include such limitations of Claim 16 and Claim 1, are in allowable form.

Accordingly, in view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicant believes that the rejections and objections of Claims 1-19 have been overcome, and further that new Claims 20-21 also recite in allowable form. The Examiner should withdraw the rejections and objections of these claims, and further should allow all of these claims and also allow new Claims 20-21.

Conclusion

The foregoing is submitted as full and complete response to the Official Action mailed December 13, 2005, and it is submitted that Claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of Claims 1-21 is earnestly solicited.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Applicant acknowledges the continuing duty of candor and good faith to disclose information known to be material to the examination of this application. In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56, all such information is dutifully made of record. The foreseeable equivalents of any territory surrendered by amendment are limited to the territory taught by the information of record. No other territory afforded by the doctrine of equivalents is knowingly surrendered and everything else is unforeseeable at the time of this amendment by the Applicant and the attorneys.

If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities that can be corrected by Examiner's amendment, or that in any way it would help expedite the prosecution of the

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Appl. No. 10/782,725
Amdt. dated 04/13/2006
Reply to the Office Action of 12/13/2005

APR 13 2006

patent application, a telephone call to the undersigned at (561) 989-9811 is respectfully solicited.

The present application, after entry of this amendment, comprises twenty one (21) claims, including four (4) independent claims. Applicant has previously paid for twenty (20) claims including three (3) independent claims. Applicant, therefore, believes that an additional fee of \$250 for claims amendment is currently due. The Commissioner is authorized to charge this claims amendment fee of \$250, or if this fee amount is insufficient or incorrect, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge the appropriate fee amount for claims amendment to prevent this application from becoming abandoned, to Deposit Account **50-1556**.

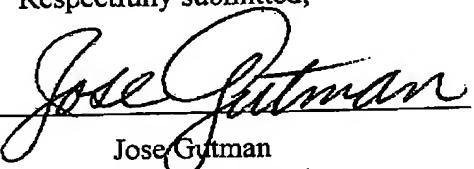
Further, a petition for extension of time to file this Response has been attached. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the extension fee of \$120, or if this fee amount is insufficient or incorrect, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge the appropriate fee amount to prevent this application from becoming abandoned, to Deposit Account **50-1556**.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **50-1556**.

In view of the preceding discussion, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and re-examination is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 13, 2006

By: 
Jose Gutman
Reg. No. 35,171

FLEIT, KAIN, GIBBONS, GUTMAN
BONGINI & BLANCO P.L.
551 N.W. 77th Street, Suite 111
Boca Raton, FL 33487
Tel (561) 989-9811
Fax (561) 989-9812